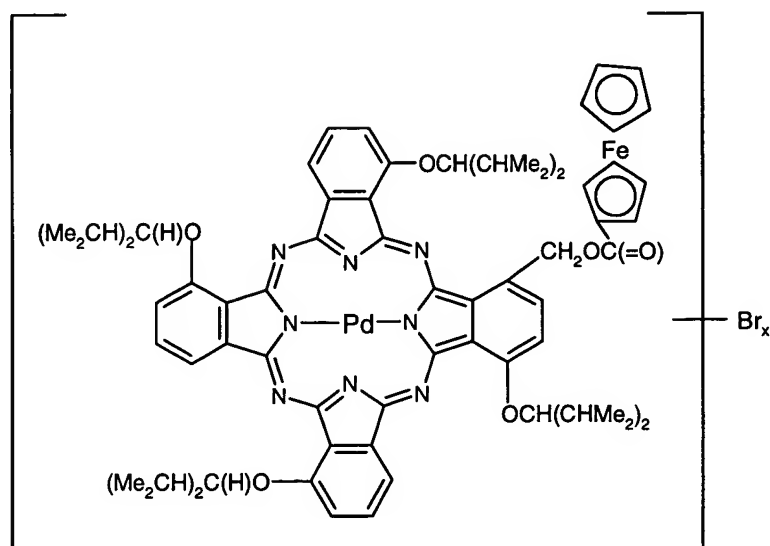


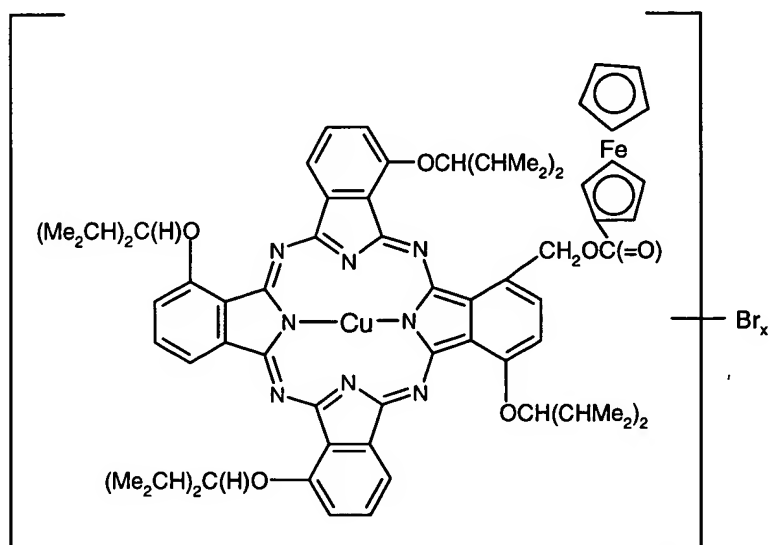
1-2. (cancelled).

3. (previously presented): A process according to claim 8 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula



where $x = 2.6$ to 3.0 .

4. (previously presented): A process according to claim 8 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula

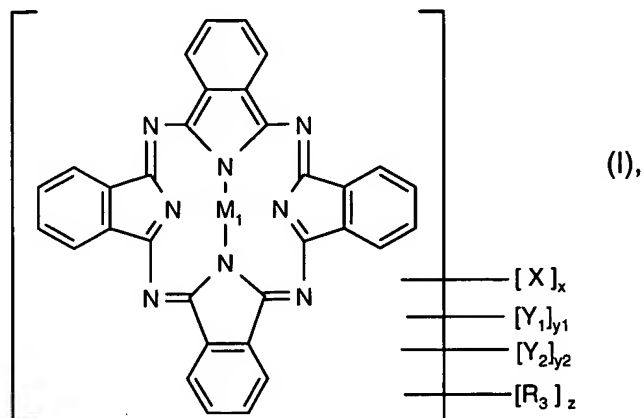


where $x = 0$ to 0.5 .

5-7. (cancelled).

8. (currently amended): A process for the manufacture of an optical recording medium having at least one recording layer, comprising the steps of

a) incorporating a metallocenyl-phthalocyanine represented by formula I



wherein

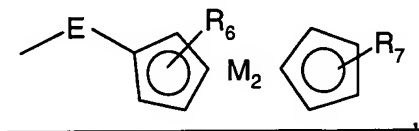
M₁ is a divalent metal, an oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, or two hydrogen atoms.

X is halogen

Y₁ is -OR₁, -OOC-R₂, -NHR₁, -N(R₁)R₂.

Y₂ is -SR₁.

R₃ is



R₆ and R₇ are each independently of the other hydrogen, halogen, C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, amino-C₁-C₄alkyl, diarylphosphine, or phosphorus-containing C₁-C₄alkyl.

x may be a rational number from 0 to 8

y₁ and y₂ may be each independently of the other a rational number from 0 to 6

z may be a number from 1 to 4.

wherein (x + y₁ + y₂ + z) is ≤ 16.

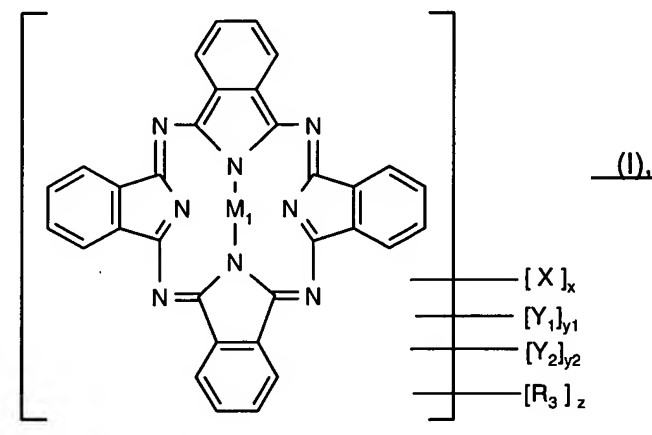
and wherein R₁ and R₂ may be each independently of the other

C₁-C₂₀alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, hydroxy, C₁-C₂₀alkoxy, C₁-C₂₀alkylamino or C₂-C₂₀dialkylamino and which may be interrupted by -O-, -S-, -NH- or -NR₁₀-, wherein R₁₀ may be C₁-C₆alkyl.

C₅-C₂₀cycloalkyl, C₂-C₂₀alkenyl, C₅-C₁₂cycloalkenyl, C₂-C₂₀alkynyl, C₆-C₁₈aryl or C₇-C₁₈aralkyl, and wherein one or two ligands may optionally be bound to the divalent metal atom, the oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, or its metal complex of a divalent metal, oxometal, halogenometal or hydroxymetal, in which at least one of the four phenyl rings of the phthalocyanines contains, bound via a bridge unit E, at least one metallocene radical as a substituent, and E is being composed of a chain of at least two members selected from the group consisting of -CH₂-, -C(=O)-, -CH(C₁-C₄alkyl)-, -C(C₁-C₄alkyl)₂-, -NH-, -S-, -O- and -CH=CH- into said recording layer,

wherein the substrate is a homo- or copolymeric plastic.

9. (currently amended): An optical recording medium, which comprises a metallocenyl-phthalocyanine represented by formula I



wherein

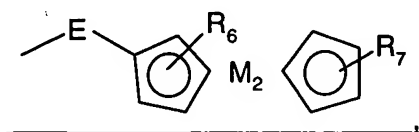
M₁ is a divalent metal, an oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, or two hydrogen atoms,

X is halogen

Y₁ is -OR₁, -OOC-R₂, -NHR₁, -N(R₁)R₂,

Y₂ is -SR₁,

R₃ is



R₆ and R₇ are each independently of the other hydrogen, halogen, C₁-C₄alkyl, C₁-C₄alkoxy, amino-C₁-C₄alkyl, diarylphosphine, or phosphorus-containing C₁-C₄alkyl,

x may be a rational number from 0 to 8

y₁ and y₂ may be each independently of the other a rational number from 0 to 6

z may be a number from 1 to 4,

wherein (x + y₁ + y₂ + z) is ≤ 16,

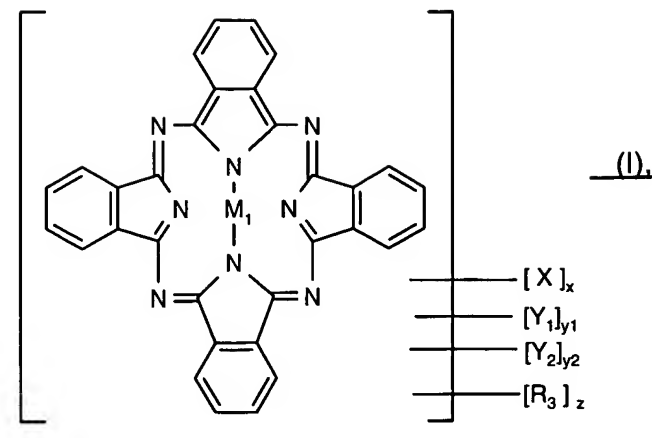
and wherein R₁ and R₂ may be each independently of the other

C₁-C₂₀alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, hydroxy, C₁-C₂₀alkoxy, C₁-C₂₀alkylamino or C₂-C₂₀dialkylamino and which may be interrupted by -O-, -S-, -NH- or -NR₁₀-, wherein R₁₀ may be C₁-C₆alkyl,

C₅-C₂₀cycloalkyl, C₂-C₂₀alkenyl, C₅-C₁₂cycloalkenyl, C₂-C₂₀alkynyl, C₆-C₁₈aryl or C₇-C₁₈aralkyl,

and wherein one or two ligands may optionally be bound to the divalent metal atom, the oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, or its metal complex of a divalent metal, exometal, halogenometal or hydroxymetal, in which at least one of the four phenyl rings of the phthalocyanine contains, bound via a bridge unit E, at least one metallocene radical as a substituent, and E is being composed of a chain of at least two members selected from the group consisting of -CH₂-, -C(=O)-, -CH(C₁-C₄alkyl)-, -C(C₁-C₄alkyl)₂-, -NH-, -S-, -O- and -CH=CH-, and a substrate which is a homo- or copolymeric plastic.

10. (previously presented): An optical recording medium, which consists essentially of a transparent substrate, a recording layer on that substrate, a reflection layer on the recording layer and, if desired, a final protective layer, the recording layer comprising a metallocenyl-phthalocyanine represented by formula I



wherein

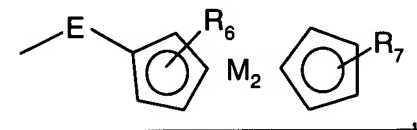
M_1 is a divalent metal, an oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, or two hydrogen atoms,

X is halogen

Y_1 is $-OR_1$, $-OOC-R_2$, $-NHR_1$, $-N(R_1)R_2$,

Y_2 is $-SR_1$,

R_3 is



R_6 and R_7 are each independently of the other hydrogen, halogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl, C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, amino- C_1 - C_4 alkyl, diarylphosphine, or phosphorus-containing C_1 - C_4 alkyl,

x may be a rational number from 0 to 8

y_1 and y_2 may be each independently of the other a rational number from 0 to 6

z may be a number from 1 to 4,

wherein $(x + y_1 + y_2 + z)$ is ≤ 16 ,

and wherein R_1 and R_2 may be each independently of the other

C_1 - C_{20} alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, hydroxy, C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy, C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino or C_2 - C_{20} dialkylamino and which may be interrupted by $-O-$, $-S-$, $-NH-$ or $-NR_{10}-$, wherein R_{10} may be C_1 - C_6 alkyl,

C_5 - C_{20} cycloalkyl, C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl, C_5 - C_{12} cycloalkenyl, C_2 - C_{20} alkynyl, C_6 - C_{18} aryl or C_7 - C_{18} aralkyl,

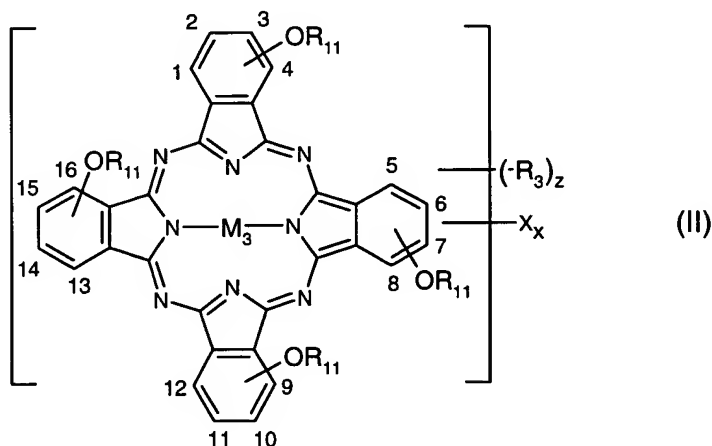
and wherein one or two ligands may optionally be bound to the divalent metal atom, the oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, or its metal complex of a divalent metal, oxometal, halogenometal or hydroxymetal, in which at least one of the four phenyl rings of the phthalocyanines contains, bound via a bridge unit E, at least one metallocene radical as substituent, and E is being composed of a chain of at least two members selected from the group consisting of -CH₂-, -C(=O)-, -CH(C₁-C₄alkyl)-, -C(C₁-C₄alkyl)₂-, -NH-, -S-, -O- and -CH=CH-.

11. (previously presented): A process according to claim 8 wherein the optical recording medium is a DVD, a diffractive-optical element or medium for recording a hologram.

12. (previously presented): A process for the manufacture of an optical recording medium having at least one recording layer, comprising the steps of

a) incorporating a mixture, which comprises

(a) 60 to 95 mol % of a compound II

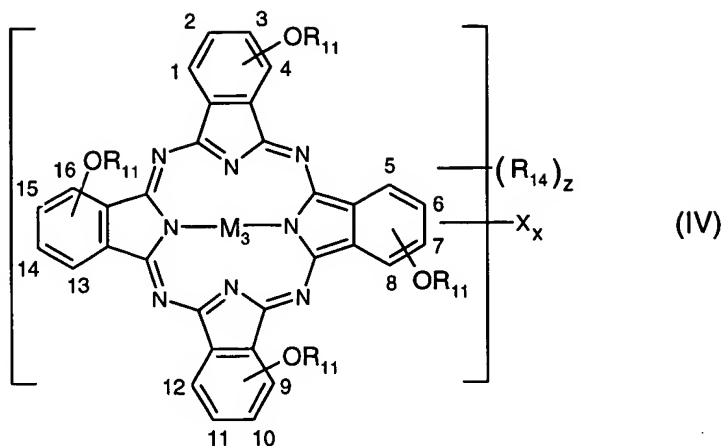


containing one radical R₃ (z = 1),

(b) 5 to 20 mol % of a compound II containing two radicals R₃ (z = 2),

and

(c) 0 to 25 mol % of a compound IV



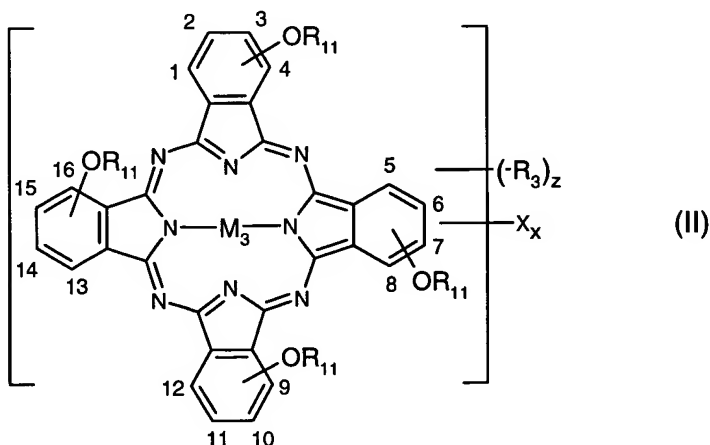
wherein $-OR_{11}$, $R_3 = R_{14}$, X and M_3 each have the same meaning in formulae II and IV and are as defined in claim 2, the mol-% amounts making up 100%, into said recording layer.

13. (currently amended): A process according to claim 12 wherein the optical recording medium is a DVD, a diffractive-optical element or medium for recording a hologram.

14. (previously presented): A process for the manufacture of optical recording medium having at least one recording layer, comprising the steps of

a) incorporating a mixture, which comprises

(a) 60 to 95 mol % of a compound II

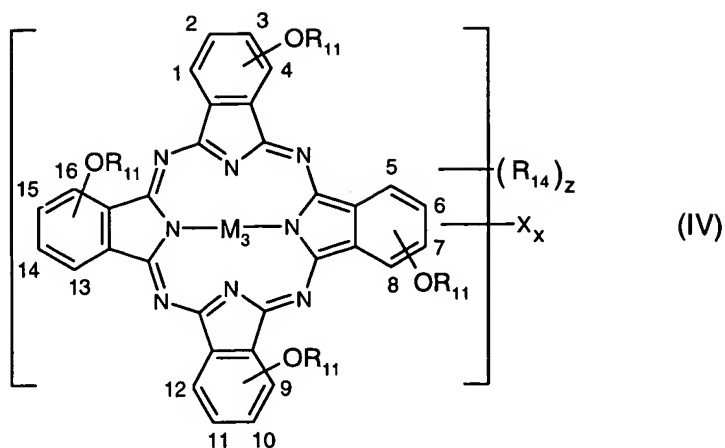


containing one radical R_3 ($z = 1$),

wherein R_{11} is C_1 - C_{12} alkyl and M_3 is palladium or copper, and z is 1,

(b) 5 to 20 mol % of a compound II containing two R_3 ($z = 2$), and

(c) 0 to 25 mol % of a compound IV



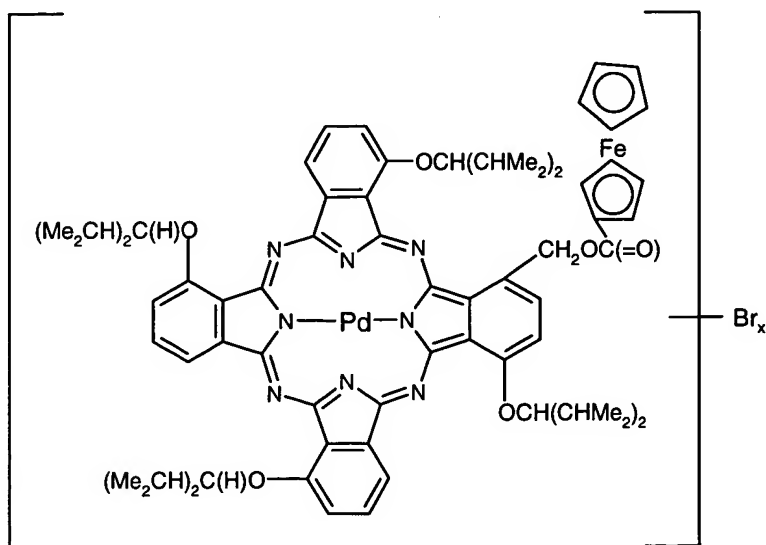
wherein R_{14} may be $-\text{CHO}$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, $-\text{COOH}$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{OC}(\text{O})-\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{alkyl}$ or an acetal, and z may be 1 or 2,

wherein $-\text{OR}_{11}$, $R_3 = R_{14}$, X and M_3 each have the same meanings in formulae II and IV and are as defined for claim 2, the mol-% amounts making up 100%, into said recording layer.

15. (previously presented): A process according to claim 14 wherein the optical recording medium is a DVD, a diffractive-optical element or medium for recording a hologram.

16. (cancelled).

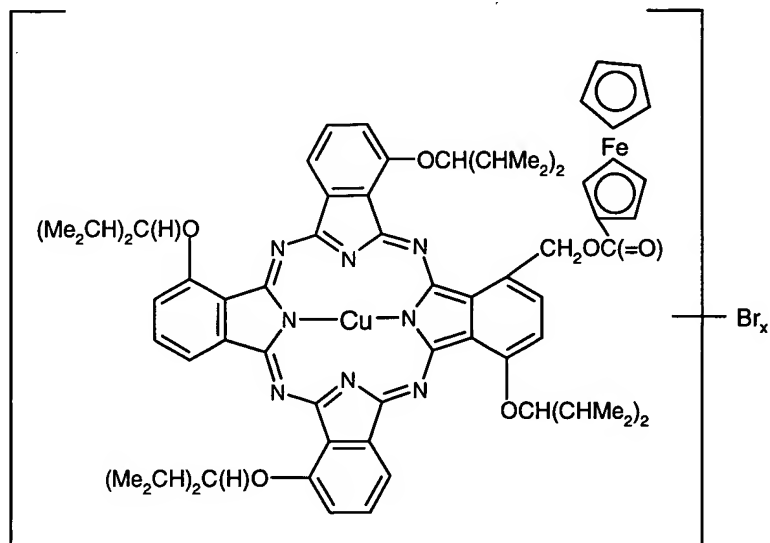
17. (previously presented): An optical recording medium according to claim 9 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula



where $x = 2.6$ to 3.0 .

18. (previously presented): An optical recording medium according to claim 17 wherein the optical recording medium is a DVD, a diffractive-optical element or medium for recording a hologram.

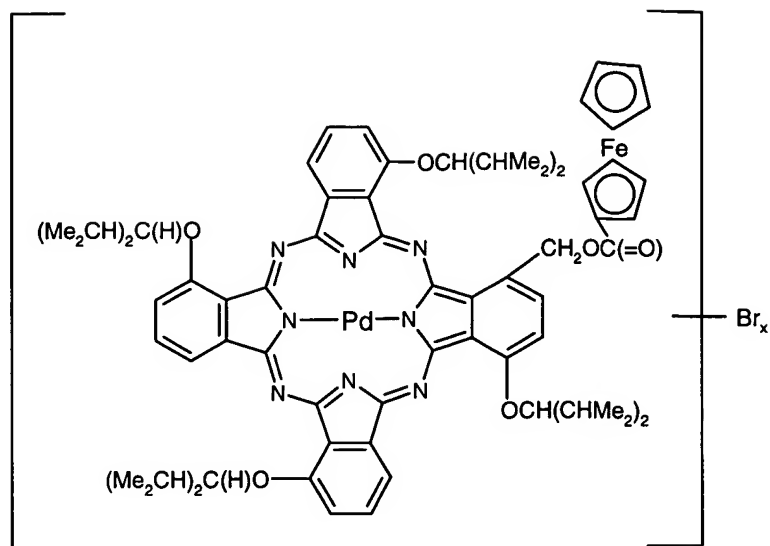
19. (previously presented): An optical recording medium according to claim 9 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula



where $x = 0$ to 0.5 .

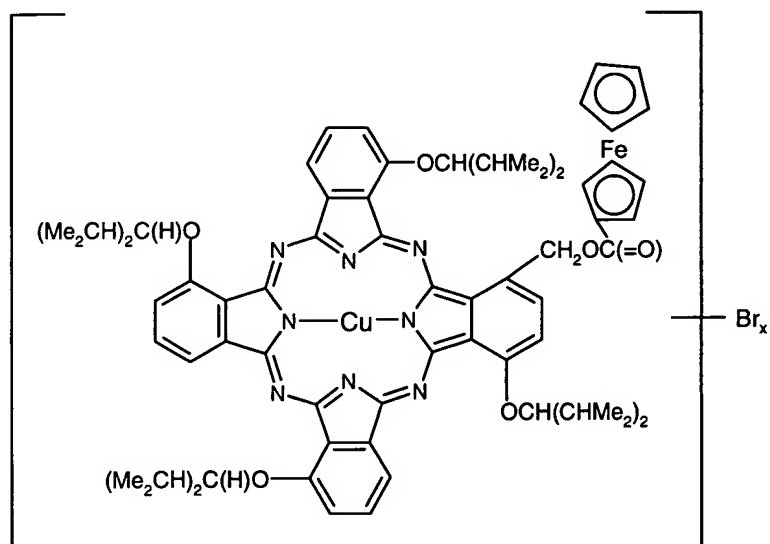
20. (cancelled).

21. (currently amended): An optical recording medium according to claim 10 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula



where $x = 2.6$ to 3.0 .

22. (previously presented): An optical recording medium according to claim 10 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula



where $x = 0$ to 0.5 .

23. (previously presented): An optical recording medium according to claim 22 wherein the optical recording medium is a DVD, a diffractive-optical element or medium for recording a hologram.